Chapter 1. QURAN PASSAGES

Passage no. 13

Surah Al-Ma'idah (05) verse no 110

Translation of the Passage

110. Then will Allah say: `Jesus son of Mary! Recount my favor to you and to your mother. Behold! I strengthened you with the holy spirit, so that you spoke to the people in childhood and in maturity. Behold! I taught you the Book and Wisdom, the Law and the Gospel. And behold! You make out of clay, as it were, the figure of a bird by my leave, and you breathe into it and it becomes a bird by my leave, and you heal those born blind, and the lepers, by my leave. And behold! You bring forth the dead by my leave. And behold! I restrained the Children of Israel from you when you showed them the clear signs, and the unbelievers among them said: `This is nothing but evident magic.' (5:110)

Main Theme of the passage and its Explanation

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- Allah's relation with His messengers referring to His beloved messenger Isa (A.S).
- Theme of this passage is God's association with His messengers. It describes God's address to Jesus in the Divine Court in the presence of children of Israel.
- Muslims are required to believe that, like other messengers Jesus was also a man chosen by God. He was granted miraculous powers so that men of wisdom should identify him. The Quran referred to this fact as:

  "Thus does God make clear to you His signs in order that you consider" (2:219).
- It outlines the prophetic signs of Jesus that include his ability to speak from the cradle, give life to the dead and cure the leper and the blind. Above all he was taught the divine wisdom through the Torah and the Gospel but despite all this he was rejected by his people who even tried to crucify him.
- It imparts that prophets were responsible for their prophetic responsibilities and they are accountable in front of Allah in this regard.
- Allah favored His messengers and supported them in their missions by physical and spiritual means. They were given miracles which were above the discovered laws of nature till that time to show that these people are really the representatives of Omnipotent God who has His support at the back of these messengers in their missions.

  " We gave Jesus the son of Merry, clear signs and strengthened him with the Holy Spirit……"

  (2: 87)
- Allah supported His messengers with knowledge, wisdom, insight, laws, book and Gospel to help them in their missions.

  "And Allah will teach him the Book and the wisdom and the law and the Gospel". (3:48)

- Allah is Omnipotent. He has made the laws of nature and only He can change them whenever He wants to change, to show His ultimate power and authority. No Prophet or angel can perform any miracle by his own. They have limited powers and whatever they do, it is only possible with Allah's leave.
- Isa (A.S) did not have a high status because of his miraculous birth. It was only because Allah wanted so. It is Allah's will and choice which raised him to the high status.
- Isa (A.S) was miraculously protected from his enemies by Allah and raised to the heavens. He was never crucified.
  " But they killed him not, nor crucified him…….Nay, Allah raised him up unto Himself……."
  (4: 157-158)
- Allah supported Isa(A.S) with certain miracles which includes the resurrection of dead, healing of the lepers and blinds, creation of living birds out of clay, knowledge of people's provisions and what they have eaten and even his birth without father and speaking in cradle were miracles of Allah. Having all these miracle he was a human being and have no power except Allah's leave.
- It inculcates that Jesus Christ could perform these miracles because he was specifically taught the Book, the Wisdom, the Law and the Gospel and had also been strengthened with the Holy Spirit i.e. Angel Jibraeel. Had Allah not protected Jesus Christ, the Israelites, who took his miracles to be magic, would have succeeded in harming him physically long before their final attempt to crucify him which too was foiled by Allah. The favors of Allah to Jesus Christ and Mary mentioned in this verse also figure at other places in the Holy Quran:
  "O people of the Scripture (Christians) ! Do not exceed the limits in your religion nor say of Allah aught but the truth. The Messiah Isa, son of Maryam was no more than a Messenger of Allah and His word" (4:171)
  "I have come to you with a sign from your Lord, that I design for you out of clay, a figure like that of a bird and breathe into it, and it becomes a bird by Allah's leave, and I heal him who was born blind, and the leper, and I bring the dead to life by Allah's leave." (3:49)
  "And when Allah will say: "O Isa, son of Maryam! Did you say to men: worship me and my mother as two gods besides Allah……. Worship Allah, my Lord and your Lord…." (5:116-118)

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Importance for today's Muslims

- The main theme of this passage highlights Muslims belief that they believe in all prophets including Isa (A.S) and respect all of them equally.
- It inspires Muslims to abstain from all types of Shirks (Associating partners with Allah).They never believe in Isa as a begotten son of God but a normal human being and a messenger of Allah.
- Muslims believe that Christianity is a revealed religion but changed by its followers. Injeel is also a divine book but has been manipulated by Christians. It is no longer preserved in its original form.
- Prophet's strong relation with Allah inspire believers to seek Allah's help, protection and guidance in their daily life and must always have firm belief and trust in Allah. They learn not to be disappointed and disheartened in any difficult situation.
- It encourages Muslims to be steadfast no matter how hard trail and hardship is. They turn to Allah in difficulties and hardships and built a strong spiritual relation with Allah by means of prayers and supplications.
- Miracles of messengers inspire Muslims to believe in Allah is the Omnipotence and that nothing is impossible for Him. They learn to submit themselves in front of Allah only and pray from him alone and no fear except the fear of Allah's displeasure.

- Muslims believe in all the miracles given to different prophets and believe them as a manifestation of Allah's support in their missions. All the messengers have no power by their own. It was Allah permission which made it possible for them to show miracle.
- It imparts that Miracles are superior to any type magic, illusions or any form of deceptive reality.
- Muslims also learn that God's messengers were always rejected despite such clear signs by the 'spiritually dead' and 'sick in heart' people who are mentioned by the Quran as:
  "Those who reject our signs are deaf and dump and midst of darkness profound" (6:39).
- Muslims also learn that the rejecters of truth will stand accountable before God in the Hereafter.
- It clarifies that the Supreme Lord of the universe is Allah alone and no one else. All human-beings including prophets, shall stand before Allah on the Day of Reckoning and Judgment and account for their deeds or the accomplishment of the missions which were entrusted to them.
- It imparts that Jesus Christ was a Prophet not God-incarnate or the begotten son of God as wrongly held by the Christians who corrupted the original revelation which he had received from Allah as His messenger.
- It clarifies that the virgin birth of Jesus Christ from Mary, the fact that he could speak with maturity even when he was still in the cradle, the power to mold a lump of clay into the shape of a bird and breathe life into it, cure the blind and the lepers and bring the dead to life were the miracles which Jesus Christ performed not on his own but with Allah's leave. It teaches that all messengers were human being but they were supported by Allah in their missions with special powers by the permission of ALLAH as sign of their prophethood.

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